NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 900030/<mark>2</mark>019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NASSAU	Index No.:/19
JANE DOE,	Plaintiff designates NASSAU COUNTY
Plaintiff,	as place of trial.
-against -	The basis of venue is Plaintiff's resides in Nassau County.
Defendant.	SUMMONS
To the above-named defendants:	
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer to serve a copy of your answer or, if the complaint is not sen notice of appearance, on the Plaintiff's Attorneys within summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within 30 days summons is not personally delivered to you within the Stafailure to appear or answer, judgement will be taken for the results of the service of the ser	rved with this summons, to serve a 20 days after the service of this after the service is complete if this te of New York): and in case your
A COPY OF THIS SUMMONS WAS FILED WITH TO NASSAU COUNTY ON IN COMPLIANCE	THE CLERK OF THE COURT, CE WITH CPLR §§305(a) AND

Dated: New York, New York August 14, 2019

306(a).

MERSON LAW, PLLC

By:

Jordan K. Merson Attorneys for Plaintiff

150 East 58<sup>th</sup> Street 34<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10155

(212) 603-9100

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

TO:

GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL

1000 Montauk Highway West Islip, NY 11795

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 900030/<mark>2</mark>019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
COUNTY OF NASSAU

JANE DOE,

Index No.:

//19

Plaintiff,

-against -

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL,

Defendant.

Plaintiff, above named, complaining of the defendants, by MERSON LAW,

PLLC., respectfully allege(s):

#### NATURE OF THE CLAIM

- This is a case of plaintiff, Jane Doe, who was sexually abused as a child by John Doe at and of Good Samaritan Hospital ("Good Samaritan")
- John Doe was a janitor, agent, servant and/or employee working at Good Samaritan
  Hospital. John Doe was known among the community and among the staff at Good
  Samaritan as a sexual predator.
- 3. In or about 1984, John Doe, while acting under the scope of his employment with Good Samaritan and on behalf of Good Samaritan, entered plaintiff's hospital room and sexually assaulted her by taking off her pajamas, exposing himself and performing oral sex on her. Plaintiff was 5 years old.
- Despite Good Samaritan's knowledge that John Doe sexually abused minor aged patients
  of their hospital and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse minor aged patients at their

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Plaintiff uses a pseudonym because she is a victim of a sex crime pursuant to N.Y. Civ. Rights § 50-b and other statutory and common law principles.

COUNTY CLERK 08/19/2019

SCEF DOC. NO.

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

hospital, Good Samaritan allowed and/or encouraged John Doe unfettered access to its minor aged patients, on company premises without proper supervision.

5. Plaintiff brings this lawsuit to recover for the emotional and physical suffering she incurred because of the negligence of Good Samaritan Hospital and to make sure no other child is forced to suffer the abuse and physical and mental trauma she felt and continues to feel.

#### **PARTIES**

- 6. At all times herein mentioned defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL was a domestic corporation organized and authorized to do business under the laws of the State of New York.
- 7. At all times herein mentioned, defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL was located at 1000 Montauk Highway, West Islip, New york11795.
- 8. At all times herein mentioned, John Doe was a janitor, agent, servant and/or employee operating under the direction and control of defendant GOOD SAMARITAN **HOSPITAL**, and its agents, servants and/or employees.
- 9. At all times herein mentioned, John Doe was an agent, servant and/or employee of defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL.

#### FACTS OF THE CASE

10. Defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL's negligence and recklessness caused John Doe to have access to children, including on Good Samaritan premises, despite its knowledge that John Doe sexually abused children and/or had the propensity to sexually abuse to do so and therefore are responsible for the injuries that Plaintiff incurred because but for Defendant GOOD SAMARITAN's negligence, Plaintif would not have suffered the mental and physical anguish inflicted by John Doe. Defendant GOOD 08/19/2019

SCEF DOC. NO.

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

SAMARITAN HOSPITAL's gross negligence, reckless, wanton and/or willful conduct warrants punitive liability.

- At all times herein mentioned, John Doe was a janitor at Good Samaritan. 11.
- 12. In or about 1984, John Doe sexually abused Plaintiff, then five years old, while she was a patient at Good Samaritan.
- John Doe, while acting under the direction and control of Good Samaritan, entered 13. Plaintiff's hospital room when she was alone to work on her bathroom. He then approached her bed, took her pajamas off, exposed himself to her and performed oral sex on her.
- As such, Plaintiff suffered catastrophic and lifelong injuries as a result of defendant's 14. negligence in undertaking a duty, including, but not limited to, in loco parentis to keep its patients safe from predators and failing to act in accord with that duty by allowing John Doe to continue his role where he had the access and the means to prey on young girls like Plaintiff, and Good Samaritan had a duty to supervise John Doe.

#### AS FOR A FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENCE

- Plaintiffs repeat, reiterate and reallege each and every allegation contained in those 15. paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 14., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.
- At all times mentioned herein, defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL owed a 16. duty of care, including in loco parentis, to keep its minor aged patients in its hospital safe from sexual abuse by its agents, servants and/or employees under its supervision and control, including on company premises, that ultimately befell the Plaintiff, and the hospital had a duty to supervise John Doe.

CLERK 08/19/2019

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

INDEX NO. 900030/2019 RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

At all times herein mentioned, defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL owed a duty of care to properly supervise its agents, servants and/or employees including its janitorial staff to ensure that its minor aged patients were not being sexually abused by its agents, servants and/or employees on its premises.

- At all times mentioned herein, defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL and/or its 18. agents, servants and/or employees breached the above-stated duty in a negligent, reckless, willful and wanton manner, and caused Plaintiff to be sexually assaulted.
- 19. As a result of the negligence of defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL and/or its agents, servants and/or employees, plaintiff was caused serious personal injuries, emotional distress, mental pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from 20. defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 21. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 22. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 23. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

## AS FOR A SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT HIRING, RETENTION AND SUPERVISION

Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those 24. paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 23., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if hereinafter set forth at length.

DOC. NO.

08/19/2019

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

Defendant GOOD SAMARTIAN HOSPITAL, had a duty to supervise and prevent 25. known risks of harm to its children and patients.

- 26. Defendant was negligent in hiring, retaining and supervising John Doe and other hospital agents, servants and/or employees who were careless, unskillful, negligent, reckless and acted in a willful and wanton manner in not possessing the requisite knowledge, skill and moral character of hospital staff who should have properly been supervising the janitorial staff and minor aged patients to ensure the safety of the minor aged patients.
- Defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL knew or should have known that John 27. Doe sexually assaulted plaintiff and/or had the capacity and/or propensity to do so, and failed to supervise him.
- As a result of such negligent hiring, supervising and retention, Plaintiff was caused to 28. suffer serious personal injuries, emotional distress, conscious pain and suffering, mental anguish and/or physical manifestations thereof, and other losses, all of which have not as of yet been ascertained.
- 29. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 30. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendant in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 31. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- 32. This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R.

# AS FOR A THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION FOR NEGLIGENT INFLICTION OF EMOTIONAL DISTRESS

COUNTY CLERK 08/19/2019

NYSCEF DOC. NO.

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

Plaintiff repeats, reiterates and realleges each and every allegation contained in those 33. paragraphs of this Complaint marked and designated 1. through 32., inclusive, with the same force and effect as if herein set forth at length.

- Defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL and their agents, servants and/or 34. employees, knew or reasonably should have known that the failure to properly advise, supervise and hire John Doe, the Janitor who sexually abused Plaintiff, would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- Defendant GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL and their agents, servants and/or employees knew or reasonably should have known that the sexual abuse and other improper conduct would and did proximately result in physical and emotional distress to Plaintiff.
- 36. Defendant has the power, ability, authority and duty to intervene with and/or stop the improper conduct that resulted in Plaintiff being sexually abused by John Doe.
- 37. Despite said knowledge, power and duty, defendant negligently failed to act so as to stop, prevent, and prohibit the improper conduct that resulted John Doe sexually abusing Plaintiff.
- 38. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to compensatory damages from defendants in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 39. By reason of the foregoing, Plaintiff is entitled to punitive damages from defendant in such sums as a jury would find fair, just and adequate.
- 40. The amount of damages sought exceeds the jurisdiction of all lower courts which would otherwise have jurisdiction.
- This action falls within exceptions to Article 16 of the C.P.L.R. 41.

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

WHEREFORE, plaintiff demands judgement against defendants in such sum as a jury would find fair, adequate and just.

Dated: New York, New York August 14, 2019 MERSON LAW, PLLC

By:

Jordan K. Merson Sarah R. Cantos Attorneys for Plaintiff 150 East 58<sup>th</sup> Street 34<sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10155 (212) 603-9100

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK	Index No.:	
COUNTY OF NASSAU		/19
X		_

Plaintiff,

-against -

JANE DOE,

ATTORNEY VERIFICATION

GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL,

Defendant.

JORDAN K. MERSON, an attorney duly admitted to practice in the Courts of New York State, and a member of the firm MERSON LAW, PLLC., attorneys for the plaintiff in the within action, hereby affirms under penalty of perjury:

That he has read the within complaint and knows the contents thereof, and that the same is true to his own knowledge, except as to the matters therein stated to be alleged upon information and belief, and that as to those matters he believes it to be true.

That the sources of his information and knowledge are investigations and records in the file.

That the reason this verification is made by affirmant and not by the plaintiff is that the plaintiff is not within the County where the attorney has his office.

Dated: New York, New York August 14, 2019

JORDAN K. MERSON

NYSCEF DOC. NO. 1

INDEX NO. 900030/2019

RECEIVED NYSCEF: 08/19/2019

Index No. Year 2019 SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF NASSAU JANE DOE, Plaintiff, - against -GOOD SAMARITAN HOSPITAL, Defendant, SUMMONS AND VERIFIED COMPLAINT Merson Law, PLLC. Attorneys for Plaintiff(s) Office and Post Office Address, Telephone 150 East 58th Street 34th Fl. New York, New York 10155 (212) 603-9100 All Parties